[Mr. K. K. Chellappan Pillai.]

(b) whether they are aware that this additional levy is hard and unjust to people ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI : (a) Adoor central toll gate being the main central traffic junction, is fixed as the Fare Stage at Adoor and for journeys beyond this point, the fare to the next stage is realised.

(b) No.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI : May I know whether the member is aware that the location of the Central Station causes hardship to passengers ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI : I am aware of it and arrangements are being made to shift the point to the centre of the town.

MR. P. C. ADICHAN (*Nominated*) : ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കിടക്കുന്ന സെൻറ റാണ് ഏറ്റവും പ്രധാനമായിട്ടുള്ളതെന്ന് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെംബർക്ക് അറിയാമോ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI : No, Sir, it is not so.

MR. P. C. ADICHAN : കൊല്ലം, പുനലൂർ, പത്തനംതിട്ട, മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും വരുന്ന ബസ്സുകൾക്ക് കയിക്കുന്നതിനും മറ്റും സൗകര്യമുള്ളത് ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സെൻറാണെന്ന് മെംബർക്ക് അറിയാമോ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI : Pefectly, Sir.

MR. P. C. ADICHAN : ഈ സെൻറർ മാറ്റാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറ് തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തിക്കഴിഞ്ഞതാ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI : Yes, Sir.

MR. P. C. ADICHAN : ഇതിലും പ്രാധാന്യമുള്ള ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സെൻറർ മാറ്റണമെന്ന് ഗവൺമെൻറ് വിചാരിക്കുന്നതിൻറെ കാരണം എന്താണ്?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI : It is not going to be eliminated as a stopping centre. It is being eliminated only as a fare stage.

Taking Animals in Buses.

315. * MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Thiruvalla*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether animals, like dog, are allowed to be taken in State Transport buses ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the rule, if any, with regard to the taking of such animals in buses ; and

(c) whether they are aware that conductors allow the animals to be seated in the bus, and that they cause nuisance and inconvenience to passengers ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI : (a) Inoffensive animals are allowed to be taken in the buses.

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(b) Single passenger fare is to be charged. No inconvenience should be caused to the passengers.

(c) No.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: Can the member tell us the manner in which these animals are allowed to be taken in the buses ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI: Yes, Sir. They are to be carried at the discretion of the conductor in consultation with the other passengers. If they have no objection, they will be carried and it is only lap-dogs and inoffensive animals that will be allowed to be carried in the buses.

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE: May I know whether there are any other arrangements made to carry animals in lorries ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI: Yes, only on contract rates.

Recruitment of Conductors.

316. * MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether any minimum qualification is prescribed for recruitment as conductor in the State Transport Department ;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, the minimum qualification prescribed ;

(c) whether the Director of State Transport Department has selected in 1121, candidates not possessing the minimum qualification ;

(d) if the answer is 'yes', the number of candidates thus selected ; and

(e) the reason if any, for such selection ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI: (a) Yes.

(b) E. S. L. C.

(c) Yes.

(d) Ten.

(e) The rule is relaxed in cases where a backward community is not adequately represented due to the non-availability of candidates with the prescribed qualification.

MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: May I know whether the rule has been relaxed recently ?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI: No, Sir.

Conductors in the Transport Department.

317. * MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the number of conductors in the Transport Department ;

(b) the number of conductors from the Nadar community ;

(c) the number of conductors appointed in 1120 and 1121 ;

(d) the number of conductors appointed from the Nadar community ; and

(e) the number of applications received from the Nadar community ?

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